

Sangamon County Building & Zoning



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SWIMMING POOLS INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

1. All pools must meet **Sangamon County Zoning Ordinance Approval**; this approval includes, but is not limited to, setbacks and flood plain ordinances. Swimming pools and appurtenant equipment shall not extend into the required front yard and side yards. Rear yards shall be required which comply with accessory structure provisions provided for in [Chapter 17.36](#). When a swimming pool is considered the principal structure or use on a tract of land, the setback, side and rear yard provisions shall be required as set forth for principal structures provided for in this title. Lights used to illuminate swimming pools shall be so arranged as to reflect light away from adjoining premises and away from the vision of passing motorists. In-the-ground swimming pools shall be enclosed with approved fencing with self-closing gates which are to be kept locked when the pool is not in use. Such fencing shall be at least four feet in height above the surrounding grade level and shall be constructed in accordance with the fencing provisions of this title. Above-the-ground swimming pools shall be either fenced in the same manner as in-the-ground swimming pools, or shall be equipped with removable ladders. Above-the-ground swimming pools with decks that do not have removable ladders or steps shall be equipped with locking gates or shall be fenced as required for in-the-ground swimming pools. See Pool Barriers

2. A site plan will need to be provided showing pools location on property, fence locations, location of all overhead and underground electrical wires, all structures, and their distances from the pool wall.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

All Electrical installations must meet the requirements of the 2005 National Electrical Code.

3. **Bonding:** Permanently installed swimming pools shall have all metal parts within 5' of the pool wall properly bonded. Sangamon County Building Safety Divisions Interpretation of required pool bonding is as follows: ***All metal parts within 5' of the pool wall shall be bonded and all metal within 5' of the bonded metal shall be bonded until 5' of separation between bonded and un-bonded metal can be met.***

Example: A concrete apron around a pool that has re-bar or mesh in it and has a portion of the reinforced apron located within 5' of the pool wall. Then bonding of the reinforcement (rebar or mesh) is required. The bonded metal reinforcement in the concrete is now the pool wall and all metal components within 5' of the reinforced apron are required to be bonded. This shall include but is not limited to metal fences and metal posts. This shall continue until the 5' of separation between bonded and non-bonded metal components requirement are met.

4) Power Supply for all circulation, filtration, and sanitation systems for a pool may be allowed to be located within 10' from the pool wall and no closer than 5' if all of the following conditions are met:

- a) Single receptacle
- b) Has a locking device
- c) Are of a grounding type
- d) Is Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) protected

5. All other receptacles must be a minimum of 10' from the pool wall and (GFCI) protected. All receptacles and power supplies located within 20' of the inside walls of a pool shall be GFCI protected.

6. No swimming pool shall be located beneath or have any edge of the pool within 10 feet measured horizontally, from an overhead electrical wire, telephone wire, cable TV wire, or any other type of wire. No pool shall be installed within 27', measured diagonally, from high voltage feeder wire (service entrance cable or utility supply lines). Diving boards, platforms, and towers must maintain an 18' distance measured diagonally, from all wires. Pools cannot be constructed over or within 5' of any buried wire or service supply lines.

POOL BARRIERS

7. Any pool that is capable of having water depth of 24" or greater shall have a barrier that completely surrounds the pool or spa. Swimming pool and spa barriers must meet the design criteria in **Appendix G of the 2006 International Residential Code and Chapter 17.46 of the Sangamon County Zoning Ordinance**.

Barriers shall be located to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb them. The top of the barrier shall be at least 48" above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2" measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above grade, such as an above-ground pool, the barrier may be at ground level, such as the pool structure, or mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the maximum vertical clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be 4".

Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4" diameter sphere. Solid barriers which do not have openings, such as a masonry or stone wall, shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances, and tooled masonry joints. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45", the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1¾" in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1¾" in width. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45" or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4". Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1¾" in width. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 2¼" square unless the fence has slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than

1¾". Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1¾". Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover which complies with ASTM F 1346, as listed in Section AG107, shall be exempt from the barrier requirements.

ACCESS GATES AND DOORS

8. Access gates shall comply with the requirements of Section AG105.2, Items 1 through 7, and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates other than pedestrian access gates shall have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54" from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism and openings shall comply with the following: The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3" below the top of the gate; and The gate and barrier shall have no opening larger than ½" within 18" of the release mechanism.

9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following conditions shall be met:

Doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and/or its screen, if present, are opened. The alarm shall be listed in accordance with UL 2017. The audible alarm shall activate within 7 seconds and sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds after the door and/or its screen, if present, are opened and be capable of being heard throughout the house during normal household activities. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm system shall be equipped with a manual means, such as touch pad or switch, to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Deactivation shall last for not more than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch/es shall be located at least 54" above the threshold of the door; or more above the threshold of the door.

ABOVE GROUND POOLS

10. Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure and the means of access is a ladder or steps:

- a) The ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access; or
- b) The ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of Section AG105.2, Items 1 through 9. When the ladder or steps are secured, locked or removed, any opening created shall not allow the passage of a 4" diameter sphere. Walls surrounding an indoor swimming pool shall comply with Section AG105.2, Item 9.

11. Gas pool heaters will require a mechanical permits and inspections. Minimum burial depth for gas lines is 12" call for inspections prior to covering pipe.